STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Tuesday, the 7th July 1931/23rd Mithunam 1106.

The fourth meeting of the Standing Finance Committee, 1106, of the Legislative Council, was held in the Dewan's Room, Public Offices, at 12 Noon on Tuesday, the 7th July 1931/23rd Mithunam 1106.

The following members were present :—
V. S. Subrahmanya Aiyar Esq., B. A., B. L., Dewan—*President.*
K. Kunjukrishna Pillai Esq., B. A., B. L.,
N. K. Krishna Pillai Esq., B. A., B. L.,
Joseph Kunju Esq.,
K. George Esq., B. A.,
R. Nilakanta Pillai Esq., B. A., B. L.,
P. N. Krishna Pillai Esq., B. A., B. L., *Convener.*

XIV. Stationery and Printing.

29. The Committee agreed to the proposal for the entertainment temporarily for one year from 1-1-1107 of an additional staff consisting of 1 Ruler on Rs. 14, 1 Ruling machine feeder on Rs. 10 and one taking-off Boy on Rs. 7 per mensem to work the Ruling Machine in the Government Press and to the provision of a sum of Rs. 372 required for the purpose in the Budget for 1107.

XV. Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.

30. The proposal regarding improvement to the Government Museum and Public Gardens and the provision of Rs. 2,000 for the purpose in the Budget was next taken up for consideration. Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai said that the amount should not be given before knowing on which items it is going to be spent. Mr. P. N. Krishna Pillai said that the Director would report to Government about the most urgent items of work and only then the amount will be sanctioned by Government. As the non-official members were not satisfied with this the Superintendent and the Director of Museum and Public Gardens were summoned. They explained the necessity for several items of work. The proposal was finally agreed to by the Committee on the Director agreeing to utilise the amount for extending the Lions' cage.

31. The Committee approved the provision of a sum of Rs. 220 in the Budget for the continuance during 1107 of the temporary Attender-Mechanic in the Astronomical Section of the Observatory.

XVI. Public Works Department.

32. The Committee agreed to the provision of a sum of Rs. 1,155 in the Budget for the continuance till the end of Karkatakam 1106 of the following temporary staff appointed for the construction of the Pallivasal-Neriamangalam road :—

(1) One Assistant Engineer on Rs. 250-50/3-400. Local allowance Rs. 75.

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(2) Two Supervisors each on Rs. 80-5-120 per mensem
(3) Three Overseers each on Rs. 50-5/2-70 ,,
(4) One Account Clerk Rs. 50 ,,
(5) Four clerks each Rs. 30 ,,
(6) Five peons each Rs. 10 ,,
(7) Local allowance Rs. 300.

33. The proposal for the appointment of a tally clerk in the Alleppey Sub-division Office on Rs. 25-1-35 and the provision of a sum of Rs. 300 in the Budget for the purpose was approved by the Committee.

34. The Committee agreed to the provision of a sum of Rs. 1,300 for the continuance till the end of Karkatakam 1106 of the Minor Irrigation Committee and the staff attached to it.

35. The Committee agreed to the provision of a sum of Rs. 9,295 in the Budget for the continuance of the Road Boards during 1107.

36. The Committee approved the proposal for the continuance till the end of Mithunam 1107 of the temporary Irrigation staff for Trivandrum, Quilon, Kottayam and Alwaye Divisions, and the provision of a sum of Rs. 8,085 required for the purpose in the Budget.

37. The proposal for the appointment of a Revenue Supervisor on Rs. 40 with a permanent travelling allowance of Rs. 20 and a peon on Rs. 8 per mensem for a period of one year from the 1st Karkatakam 1106 for assessing damages in connection with the laying of Distribution Pipes for the Trivandrum Water Works was accepted by the Committee as also the provision of Rs. 816 for the purpose in the Budget. The expenditure is to be debited to the Trivandrum Water Works account.

38. The Committee approved the proposal for the appointment of a Meter Inspector on Rs. 80-5-120 with P. C. A. of Rs. 30 per mensem and a 4th Meter Reader on Rs. 25-5-40 with P. C. A. of Rs. 5 per mensem temporarily for a period of one year from 1-1-1107 in the Electrical Division and the provision of a sum of Rs. 1,540 for the purpose in the Budget.

XVII. Village Panchayats.

39. The proposal for the organisation of two Village Panchayats in each of the Divisions of Trivandrum, Quilon and Kottayam, in 1107, was then taken up for consideration. Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai suggested that it was better to wait for the organisation of Panchayats throughout the State than try in a half-hearted manner. The Dewan said that the reports about the work of the Panchayats in Malabar have not been encouraging and hence Government thought it advisable to organise two Panchayats in each of the three divisions at first and watch their progress before increasing the number. Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai asked if these Panchayats prove to be a failure whether the Government would give up the idea of organising any more Panchayats. The Dewan replied that the idea of the Government was to select the most suitable places so that they might not fail. The proposal was finally approved as also the provision of a sum of Rs. 6,000 in the Budget for making the contribution in 1107.

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